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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: WESTERN HEMISPHERE: BOLIVIA, REFORMS,

GOVERNANCE; SCO PAULO

Bolivian Chaos

Article in center-right O Estado de S. Paulo (5/6) says: "The approval of the autonomy referenda was the way six out of the nine provinces that make up Bolivia found to force the central government to revise the constitutional project...[that] increases the power of the central government...and withdraws it from the provinces.... With the referenda, the opposition intends to obtain some political advantage that goes beyond achieving administrative autonomy. The main one is to isolate the central government and force it to negotiate structural reforms.... Both sides must be willing to negotiate to overcome the impasse they created."